Off and running!

Stuttgart's PHS, CYS sports seasons start in style



While the big guys slugged it out Sept. 16 on Husky Field, Stuttgart's younger footballers hit the gridiron across Patch Barracks on Cooper Field. For more about the start of CYS flag football and soccer seasons – and a look at Patch High School's first weekend as a Division I football, tennis and cross country school, see pages 8 and 9.

photos by Hugh C. McBride

Inside This c Edition Technology

On the links at the Commander's Tourney

Teams of golfers hit the links on the Stuttgart Golf Course for an afternoon of friendly competition at U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's inaugural Commander's Tournament.



Page 13 Shooting, celebrating in Garmisch

A fest on Artillery Kaserne and the annual Friendship Shoot at the Keans Lodge give Germans and Americans in Garmisch much to celebrate together.



Eventually, they will all come home For every POW/MIA, a family & a nation remember

By Capt. Ken Hall Commentary

n the third Friday in September, we recognize and honor those servicemembers who suffered as prisoners of war, and those still missing.

We do it for them. More important, we do it for their families, and we do it so every man and woman in uniform today can truly believe in their heart should they fall in battle, we will bring them home.

Those missing have become a distant memory to some in America, but resolution and closure remains the focus for those families whose loved ones still lie on distant battlefields. Giving them resolution and closure remains the primary mission for many people in units like the Joint POW/ MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii and the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office in Washington, D.C.

What most of them will tell you is they have the most gratifying job in the U.S. military.

What most of them won't tell you is they risk their own lives daily while deployed around the world in austere locations to make sure their fallen comrades are returned to their families and to a final resting place on American soil.

I can tell you what it was like serving in the unit charged with bringing home the missing – it was the most rewarding assignment I have ever had.

It was certainly the one where I most felt I was doing something that mattered, and that's considering my deployments to Operation Desert Storm, Bosnia and New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

During my tour with Joint Task Force-Full Accounting and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, we brought home more than 225 missing American heroes and laid them to rest with the honor they so long deserved.

The distant memory of those missing may just be a number or statistic to some, but the 88,000 missing heroes represent 88,000 real-life stories of loss and pain to 88,000 wives or husbands who will never grow old together,

whose children will never know their parent, or whose parents outlived their child.

During my deployments to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, I saw firsthand where we believed more than a dozen of these heroes lay lost, and I learned their stories, too.

My first deployment to Laos took me to the thickly jungled Ho Chi Minh Trail in Salavan Province. From the air, the landscape looked like moonscape from the innumerable bomb craters still evident 30-plus years later. There, I learned the story of not one missing hero, but five.

Jolly Green-23's HH-3E crew was searching for a downed Marine pilot who had just been shot down while providing close-air support to troops in the Ashau Valley.

The enemy had captured the downed, injured pilot and then used him as bait to attract and then attempt to shoot down would-be rescuers. This was the fate that found the crew of Jolly Green-23.

Among them were Capt. Richard Yeend, co-pilot; Staff Sgt. Elmer Holden, flight engineer; Sgt. James Locker, pararescueman; and Coast Guardsman Lt. Jack Rittichier, an exchange pilot. During my tour, we saw them all laid to rest in American soil.

In the mist-shrouded mountains of what was once North Vietnam, on what had once been an escape route for Navy pilots returning to their carriers after dropping their bombs on Hanoi and Haiphong Harbor, lay the crash site of Lt. Roderick Lester and his bombardier/navigator Lt. Harry Mossman. They had just completed a bombing run in August 1972 and were returning to the USS Kitty Hawk when their A-6 Intruder crashed into the side of a mountain.

In Lieutenant Mossman's son's eulogy, he recalled: "My dad wrote, '...I have made government service in the Navy my career. I hope I can help the people who are this nation in some small way by trying to make the part of the armed forces in which I serve use its vast power as wisely as possible in the preservation of this nation.'

The most rewarding part of my duties included meeting and briefing the families of those servicemembers we recovered and identified.

During their visits, the families' emotions ran the gamut, from nervous happiness at finally knowing what had happened and their loved one had indeed perished, to silent sobbing because it was finally "over."

Afterward, we would always adjourn to the identification laboratory where the family would be given some time alone with the remains of their loved one, and the remains would then be prepared for their final journey home.

I don't have room for all of them in this writing, but I will always remember the stories of those whose recoveries I had visited. These are their names:

- Navy Cdr. Lynn Doyle, whose F-8 was shot down in Vietnam in 1965.
- Marine 2nd Lt. Donald Matocha, who in 1968 was lost in ground combat on Dong Ha Mountain near Khe Sanh in Vietnam and who has been laid to rest.
- Army Warrant Officer Walter Wrobleski, lost in a UH-1 helicopter crash in Ashau Valley in Vietnam.
- Air Force Col. Dale Eaton and Capt. Paul Getchell, who went down in their B-57 Canberra in 1969 along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos on a night mission.
- Navy Lt. John Golz, lost when his A-4 went down in Salavan Province in Laos in 1970.
- Army Special Forces Sgt. Norman Payne, lost in a night attack in 1968 in Savannakhet Province, Laos.

Every year on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, remember them and thank them for their contributions, and remember those still missing.

They showed us, through their example, that freedom is not free, but it can be maintained.

On this day - and on every day - all Americans should say: We remember, and we are very grateful.

Hall is with the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office on Laughlin Air Force Base.

This commentary originally appeared on the Air Force Link Web site (www.af.mil).

Col. Kenneth G. Juergens U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander

Hugh C. McBride hugh.mcbride@us.army.mil

Assistant Editor

Brandon Beach brandon.beach@us.army.mil Reporters

Sue Ferrare

sue.ferrare@us.army.mil

Raquel Hicks

raquel.l.hicks@us.army.mil

Contact Information

Office Location: Building 3307-W, Kelley Barracks U.S. Army Address: Unit 30401, APO AE 09107 German Address: Gebäude 3307-W, Kelley Barracks, Plieningerstrasse, 70567 Stuttgart Telephone: 421-2046/civ. 0711-729-2046 Fax: 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570

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ing inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army.

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The Citizen is an offset press publication printed in 6,500

copies every two weeks.

www.stuttgart.army.mil

It's a simple equation: Info Security = Lives Saved

By Ed Beemer

Commentary

t's really very simple. If we keep our information and communica tions secure lives will be saved. Operational Security and Informa-

tion Assurance are not just Army programs. They are a mindset that requires the constant attention of every Army officer, enlisted Soldier, civilian employee, contractor and family member.

It was easier to keep a secret when Soldiers carried muskets and marched onto open fields in tight lines, pressure from higher ranks and civilian leaders. formation. You deployed patrols to ward off scouts, you armed and escorted your messengers and you kept your soldiers out of taverns and away from pretty faces.

Today it's a little more complicated.

Technology has given us great communication capabilities. It has also opened the door to eavesdropping and spying opportunities where the enemy can be half a world away and reading or listening in as if he was seated right next to you.

Technology has also given us great security capabilities Firewalls, encryption and PKI have taken over the jobs of patrols and armed messengers on the networked Army of today. There are those who would tell you that technology is the ultimate answer to any security challenges the Army might have.

The fact is, in an open environment, that's simply not the case. There is and always will be the human factor.

It's always easy to fall victim to the pressures of dead-

The enemy is smart, technically able and, if given an opportunity, will exploit our mistakes. The only true protection is human vigilance, and the only person who can ensure that happens is you.

It's faster to cut corners and bypass policies and procedures. It's easy to justify actions that happened "just once. But no break in the IA/OPSEC perimeter is justifiable.

There's too much at stake.

If Army personnel ranging from general staff to raw recruits don't follow IA/OPSEC policies and procedures, we will remain vulnerable. The enemy is smart, technically able and, if given an opportunity, will exploit our mistakes.

Our cyber and communication defenses are being probed every nano-second from a wide variety of sources: state sponsored intrusions, terrorists and even little Billy next door.

The only true protection is human vigilance, and the only person who can ensure that happens is you.

Beemer is with the Army Office of Information Assurance and Compliance. This commentary originally appeared on the Army News Web site (www.army.mil/arnews).

-Pfennig Bazaar 2006



Pascal Bernard

The GAWC's Pfennig Bazaar has been raising money and offering great deals for more than three decades.

Bazaar's bargain bonanza benefits area organizations

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

hough the pfennig has been relegated to the annals of financial history, the bazaar that bears its name is alive and well and coming to a *Haus* near you.

The 2006 edition of the Stuttgart German-American Women's Club's bargain bonanza is Oct. 11 to 13 in Stuttgart's Haus der Wirtschaft (Willi Bleicher Strasse 19). Shoppers can search for treasures at the following times:

- Oct. 11 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 12 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13 9:30 a.m. to noon Entrance to the bazaar is free.

In addition to offering amazing prices on a wealth of clothes, books, toys and other secondhand merchandise, the bazaar also supports the local German and American communities.

Last year's event raised more than 100,000 euros, which was divided between the German and American boards and disseminated via community grants.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to develop new and lasting friendships while working in a safe environment for a great cause," said Martha Brettschneider, Pfennig Bazaar American co-chair.

For more about the Pfennig Bazaar contact Martha Brettschneider (0711-680-5329; marbrett2@hotmail.com) or Wanda Arnold (0711-680-8867; thefourarnolds@grennet.de).

Opening Day Bake Sale

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club will help support the opening day of the Pfennig Bazaar (Oct. 11) by hosting the "Great American Bake Sale."

The community is encouraged to help by contributing freshly baked, wrapped and labeled items.

Baked goods can be dropped off Oct. 10, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Army Community Service, in the main office of any Stuttgart-area DoDDS school or at the Kelley Barracks Installation Coordinator's Office.

For details e-mail mharvey30@pjsnet2.de.

Volunteers Needed! Lend a hand to help a great cause

n addition to continuing Stuttgart's great tradition of German-American friendship, the Pfennig Bazaar also promotes the spirit of volunteerism among members of the city's German and American communities.

Volunteers are needed to set up prior to the event, to staff sales tables during the bazaar, and to assist with post-event cleanup. Volunteers can contribute as many or as few hours as they would like.

Membership in the German-American Women's Club is not a prerequisite for volunteering – simply put, any adult community member who would like to take part can do so. For details contact Martha Brettschneider or Wanda Arnold (contact information at bottom left of this page).

How to get to the Pfennig Bazaar

- From Patch, take Route 831 toward Robinson Barracks/Messe.
- At the Messe turn left toward Robinson Barracks.
- At the Bosch Tower, turn right onto B27 toward Tübingen.

Parking Option #1

- At the intersection at the Hauptbahnhof, bear right onto Kriegsbergstrasse.
- The Katharinenhospital Parkhaus #4 is just after the two towers on the left.

Parking Option #2

- Continue past the Hauptbahnhof and turn right onto Schellingstrasse.
- Parkhaus des Landes #15 is at the end of the block on the left.

If travelling by train, take the S-Bahn to Stadmitte Station.

Walk west on Kienestrasse toward the green dome of the Haus der Wirtschaft.

News & Notes

Stuttgart schools need substitutes

Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Stuttgart are currently accepting applications for substitute teachers at schools on Patch Barracks, Panzer Kaserne and Robinson Barracks.

Substitutes play essential roles in our students' education. Make a positive difference in our students' lives: become a DoDDS substitute. For details visit www.bavdso. eu.dodea.edu and click "employment."

Join the Community Bell Choir

The Stuttgart Adult Community Bell Choir invites experienced and non-experienced handbell players to join its Monday night rehearsals 5 to 7 p.m., in the Patch Chapel. For more information call Gini Dugan at 430-4050/civ. 0711-680-4050 or 07031-416-632 after 7 p.m.

Stuttgart Singers now rehearsing

Join the Stuttgart Singers (your community chorus for 17 years) Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m., in the Patch Chapel, and meet new friends while singing wonderful music.

Men, women and high school students are needed in all vocal parts. Auditions and the ability to read music are not required.

For more information call Kathy Williams at 07159-44991 or visit www.stuttgartsingers.de.

Community Bank requires ID cards

Stuttgart area Community Bank branches would like to remind patrons that the only form of ID accepted at the bank is a military issued ID.

No other forms of ID can be used, and you will be denied service if you are not in possession of your military ID card.

All-Army Photography Contest

The All Army Photography Contest-Local Level is going on now. Categories range from photography to short film. The top three submissions in each category will be recognized.

Deadline for submissions is Oct. 8, and there is no fee to enter. Entry forms and guidelines are available at the RB Arts and Photo Studio and Patch Frame Shop.

For details call 420-6038/civ. 0711-819-6038.

Special Emphasis Program Mgrs.

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Equal Employment Opportunity Office is currently accepting applications for Special Emphasis Program Managers for the following four programs: American Indian/Alaskan Native; Asian-American; Hispanic-American; Individuals with Disabilities; and Women's Employment.

These collateral-duty assignment opportunities are open for all permanent career or career-conditional employees – regardless of grade level – who are assigned to USAG Stuttgart or USAG Garmisch.

Applicants who are accepted as SEPMs will serve in the following capacities:

- 1. Provide advice and assistance to management officials to assist in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Management Direct 715 Affirmative Employment Plan.
- 2. Develop special program initiatives directed toward enhancing advancement and employment of individuals in the area of their Special Emphasis Program.
- 3. Obtain an understanding of mission requirements and civilian personnel administration processes to provide information on career advancement opportunities.
- 4. Assist management officials and supervisors in carrying out their responsibilities for the employment and advancement of individuals in the area of their Special Emphasis Program.
- 5. Provide information to installation and community organizations to publicize the achievements of individuals in the area of their Special Emphasis Program.

For more information call USAG Stuttgart Acting EEO Officer Christina L. Renner-Daniel at 421-2684/civ. 0711-729-2684 or e-mail christina.lee.daniel@us.army.mil.

No street parking by Patch Theater

Parking is no longer allowed on the southbound lane of Pennsylvania Strasse, across from the Patch Theater.

No parking signs have been put in place, and vehicles found to be parked there will be ticketed and have their tires booted.

Online Resources

Military family assistance a click away

Story by Brandon Beach

Torgot if you should shake the adjutant's hand at a formal reception or what FRG stands for?

The answers can be a mouse click away with online resources such as www.MyArmyLifeToo.com and www. MilitaryOneSource.com, sites that can help make sure military families don't feel overwhelmed by issues of social etiquette and military acronyms.

Your online portal

A comprehensive online portal, MyArmyLifeToo.com is a one-stop resource for Soldiers and their families to access the latest in readiness programs and information.

The Web site features a redesigned layout and simulates a typical Army community to familiarize users with an environment that they might encounter on a daily basis.

In order to access the site's boundless resources, the first step is to create a user account, login and specify your corresponding military community affiliation; for most, this will be "USAG, Stuttgart" or "USAG, Garmisch."

The registration is free, and once confirmed, users have access to the site's many portals, including online chat forums and interactive training courses. These forums, in particular,

are an important feature that can connewsletters, free educational matenect users to military and family experts from around the world.

The Web site also includes an expansive life skills index with answers to frequently asked questions under topics ranging from housing to finances to personal safety.

These questions are updated every Friday to keep families informed of current topics and concerns. Chances are if you have a question, regardless of how remote, you're not alone.

In addition, the site carries the most current Army news articles and links to other related Web sites.

24-hour assistance

MilitaryOnesource.com is another Web site geared toward informing military families.

The site not only provides the latest in family readiness information but offers a worldwide around-theclock telephone assistance service available to active duty, Guard and Reserve Soldiers, as well as to civilians and veterans stationed overseas.

The services are offered at no cost and connect you to expert consultants that can help you deal with a variety of life's issues such as coping with a deployment or balancing household expenses.

Creating a user account is simple and allows you to access online articles, live workshops, monthly rials, topical bulletin boards, financial calculators and many other interactive tools.

These Web sites can keep you connected to the most up-to-date information and resources available and make sure you shake the right hand.

(By the way: At a formal reception, the adjutant introduces you to the guest of honor and is not there to shake hands. A Family Readiness Group, or FRG, sponsors newcomers to a unit.)

To reach a 24-hour Military One Source consultant call overseas collect 001-484-530-5908.



Several Web sites are available that offer a wealth of resources to service members, their families and civilians living overseas.

Show support for troops via the 'net

ommunity members seeking to pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces may post a message of support at www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil. Launched in November of 2004, the site has received thousands of messages from Ameri-

can citizens to Soldiers serving both at home and overseas. This interactive online resource allows Soldiers, in turn, to say thanks to their many supporters, as did Staff Sgt. Pamela Kitty who wrote, "I just want to thank everyone for all your support. It brings tears to my eyes when I read some of the letters people send. I am ... very proud to serve

my country." Submitting a message is as easy as a mouse click and can be done directly from the site's homepage. In addition to posting messages, the site allows you to send care packages to Soldiers, adopt a platoon, donate prepaid calling cards and participate in many other acts of charity.

I want YOU To Register & Vote

Your sources for voting information: DSN 421-2959/ CIV 0711-729-2959 www.fvap.gov-

AAFES facilities to change hours of operation

AAFES has revised the hours of operation for on-post retail facilities in Stuttgart and Garmisch. These changes will go into effect Oct. 8.

Garmisch PX (Current – T-F: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sat. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sun-Mon: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) • Effective Oct. 8 – T-F: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sat. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sun-Mon: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Garmisch Shoppette (T-F: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat. 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. / Sun-Mon: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.) Effective Oct. 8 – T-F: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sun-Mon: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Kelley Shoppette (Current - Mon. to Fri.: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat. & Sun: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.) Effective Oct. 8 – Mon. to Fri.: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sat. & Sun: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Panzer Shoppette (Current – Mon. to Fri.: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat. & Sun: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) Effective Oct. 8 – Mon. to Fri.: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sat. & Sun: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Patch Burger King (Current – M to F:7 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sun: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.) Effective Oct. 8 – M to F: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sat: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sun: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

Patch Anthony's Pizza (Current – Mon. to Sat: 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sun: 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.) • Effective Oct. 8 – Mon. to Sat: 10:30 a.m. to **7 p.m.** / Sun: 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RB CX (Current – Mon. to Fri.: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sat: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Sun: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. • Effective Oct. 8 – Mon. to Fri.: **Noon** to 8 p.m. / Sat: 10 a.m. to **7 p.m. /** Sun: 10 a.m. to **7 p.m.**

RB Pizza Hut

(M: Closed / T-Th: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. / F: 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. / Sat: Noon to 10 p.m. / Sun: Noon to 8 p.m.) • Effective Oct. 8 – Closed Tuesdays / Otherwise, no changes to current schedule

For more information about AAFES in Stuttgart and Garmisch call 421-2842/civ. 0711-729-2842.

STUTTGART DHU CONTEST

Enter your best shots for a chance to win valuable prizes... ...and a chance to be entered in the All Army level!









RULES:

Open to all ID card holders
Entries must be submitted by October 8th
Judging will be on October 10th
Awards will be given October 11th, 1800
Public viewing will be during judging, & 1600 on Oct. 11th
at Kelley Community Club, Bldg 3300

Entry forms and guidelines are available at the RB Arts & Photo & the Patch Frame Shop



Save money, time with Tricare mail order pharmacy

Tricare News Release

ore beneficiaries than ever are saving money and time by using the Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy. Defense leaders see the trend toward mail order pharmacy use as a vital component in their efforts to control rising health care costs.

"This success indicates that by partnering with beneficiary organizations we have been able to get the word out about this safe, easy and cost-effective option for getting medications," said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, Tricare Management Activity.

"Taking advantage of this important benefit lets our beneficiaries save themselves money and helps Tricare reduce expenses."

The number of mail order prescriptions delivered to beneficiaries in July exceeded June's total, moving mail-order prescriptions to 7.4 percent of the total number of prescriptions that Tricare fills, the highest level in two years. During this same time period the number of prescriptions filled at military treatment facilities and those filled at retail locations dropped.

Defense leaders are optimistic that they can increase mail order use to 10 percent by the end of the year. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the Department of Defense will save \$1.5 billion from 2007 to 2016 by transferring prescriptions from retail pharmacies to the Tricare mail-order program.

But savings for beneficiaries may be the biggest

Tricare Pharmacy, a click away

For details visit www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/tmop.cfm.

> reason for the increasing popularity of the mail order pharmacy. Beneficiaries may save as much as 66 percent on maintenance medications for conditions such as high blood pressure, asthma or diabetes.

> The beneficiary receives up to a 90-day supply of most medications for the same amount they would pay for a 30-day supply at a retail pharmacy. Pharmacists automatically check prescriptions against the beneficiary's medication history to guard against harmful drug interactions, and users don't have to make a trip to the drug store.

> Mail-order service is useful for maintenance medications that beneficiaries use for long periods. For immediate or short term needs for medications, beneficiaries may fill prescriptions at military treatment facilities or local retail pharmacies.

> Beneficiaries may enroll in the mail order program by mail or online. For more information, visit www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/tmop.cfm.

About Tricare

Tricare Management Activity, the Department of Defense agency that administers the health care plan for the Uniformed Services, retirees and their families, serves more than 9.2 million eligible beneficiaries worldwide.



Talk with a nurse—day or night

Whether it's a sick child in the middle of the night or a minor weekend injury, health care questions don't stick to a schedule. TRICARE's Nurse Advice Line lets you talk to a nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week. No call-backs, no waiting. Our nurses can help by:

- Scheduling an appointment with your military provider
- Offering self-care advice to help you feel better now
- Arranging for your healthcare provider to call you
- Advising emergency care if necessary

Call the TRICARE Nurse Advice Line any time at

0800-825-1600



www.europe.tricare.osd.mil

HEALTH CARE CORNER

U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart

Hours of Operation

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.

Pharmacy

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Immunizations

Walk-in basis Closed noon to 1 p.m.

Well Baby Care **Every Tuesday**

Laboratory

M, T, W, F:: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Physical Exams

Active-duty only (by appt.) 430-6817/civ. 0711-680-6817

Well Woman Care

Every Wednesday

Appointments

430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610 or 430-8611/civ. 0711-680-8611 Tricare beneficiaries can also make appointments online Visit www.tricareonline.com

Stuttgart Dental Clinic -

Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Active-Duty Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

All Others Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Appointments

430-8626/civ. 0711-680-8626

Garmisch Dental Clinic -

Hours of Operation

Mon., Wed & Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tue: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8 a.m.

Appointments

440-3414/civ. 08821-750-3414

Note

Dental services are extremely limited for patients other than active-duty service members and their families.

In case of an after-hours emergency call the MP desk to access the on-call patient liaison: Stuttgart 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262 / Garmisch 440-3827/civ. 08821-750-3827

-24-Hour Marathon & Music Fest

Stuttgart residents go the distance for area youth

Story and photos by Brandon Beach

hey ran under blue skies. They ran against the night chill. In the end, they raised \$26,000 by simply moving their feet.

More than 800 Soldiers, civilians and family members logged lap after lap around Patch Barracks' Husky Field track Sept. 8 and 9 during the 17th annual 24-Hour Marathon and Music Fest.

"I've never seen a community that bonds so closely together like this for one reason," said Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Tobin of U.S. European Command, the president of the marathon committee. "All the funds we raised out here go right back into the youth organizations."

Gen. William E. Ward, EUCOM deputy commander, lauded the event's focus on serving Stuttgart-area youth.

"What this community does in support of its youth is to be commended," Ward said during the post-event awards ceremony. "The youngsters out here can take away some really great benefits."

More than a thousand T-shirts were sold this year (the event's main fundraiser). Proceeds go on to benefit such local organizations as the Piranhas Swim Team, Olympic Development soccer program and the Stuttgart Boy Scouts.

On Friday, some 20 teams took the ceremonial jog around the oval track to kick off the overnight event.

With one runner required to be on the track at all times, teams opted to pitch tents, light up barbeques or throw the Frisbee around on Husky Field.

"Most of the unit will be camping out here tonight," said Cpt. Christopher Leung of U.S. Special Operations Command Europe Signal Detachment, a unit that had 32 participants. "This is an important teambuilding event for the unit that we support every year."

Half an hour after the official start, Bob Gridley, a Child and Youth Sports recreation assistant, took a short break on the side of the track to drink some water and stretch out the legs.

After 11 laps and 23 hours still left on the clock, Gridley, along with three other "Iron" runners, planned to spend the entire day on the track. Last year, Gridley surpassed 140 laps (66 miles) but missed out on a trophy chalice.

"I don't think anyone's dumb enough at my age to run this long," said the 56-year old Gridley, who competed in the senior category. "But like I always say, 'Mind over body."

While the runners circled the track hour after hour, local music acts, such as One Brick Shy and Kitchen Pass, turned up the volume and belted out jams from the stage, set up in the middle of the field.

On Friday night, Grammy-nominated artist Elida Reyna and her band played an hour set of Tejano-infused hits to a crowd of squeeling young girls camped out at the front of the stage, who hung onto her every "yeah yeah yeah."

Various DJ's kept the turn tables spinning out beats throughout the night motivating tired legs and heavy eyes.

On Saturday morning, the sun returned to the track, marathon participants crawled out of tents, pickup football games started on the field and runners sat down for a pancake and I've never seen a community that bonds so closely together like this for one reason.

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Tobin U.S. European Command

egg breakfast, compliments of the American Legion Stuttgart Post 6.

Legion Stuttgart Post 6. Rounding out the winners

The 24-Hour Marathon concluded with a post-race ceremony that honored the teams and individuals that either ran the most laps, brought the most bodies or stared at the white track line longer than anyone else.

- Being young and in shape can have its advantages. With 3,669 laps on its tally sheet (think the length of California twice), the Patch High School Track Team took top honors this year covering more distance than any other squad.
- Recognized for the most registered runners was the EUCOM Command, Control, Communication System and Warfighting Integration team with 136 participants.
- Last year, Gunnery Sgt. Katie Scoffield of Marine Forces Europe clocked in 58 miles. This year, she bested that distance by five miles to win the Ironwoman trophy in the junior category (39 years old and under).

"I'm tired, so I know she must be exhausted," said Sgt. Sherene Knight of Marine Forces Europe, who kept her eyes open most of the night, marking off lap after lap as Scoffield's official counter. "I went out there last night on the track and made sure she didn't quit."

- Winning her second consecutive Ironwoman trophy in the senior category (40 years old and over) was Tammy Knott of the Stuttgart Health Clinic, who logged 62 miles, a mile farther than her feat last year.
- Seven pairs of socks and three sets of shoes later Daniel Bischoff, a computer administrative assistant at the Stuttgart Health Clinic completed his 296th lap (or just over 98 miles) to win the Ironman in the junior category.

"I told myself before the race, 'All or nothing," he said. With trophy in hand after the awards ceremony, he walked gingerly to the nearby parking lot, ice packs wrapped tightly around his swollen ankles. "Now I'm just looking forward to turning off my cell phone and getting some sleep."

• Finally, completing 225 laps (nearly three 26-mile marathons) and mustering a gladiator performance, Gridley had just enough reserve in the tank to walk up and receive his Ironman trophy in the senior category. After the race, he couldn't help but think about next year.

"The competition doesn't have to worry about me," he said. "I decided this will be my last one. I ache really really bad."

To apply for funds from the 24-Hour Marathon and Music Fest, visit visit www.stuttgart-community-marathon.com.



Members of the U.S. Special Operations Command Europe take the ceremonial jog around Husky Field to kick off the 24-Hour Marathon and Music Fest Sept. 8.



Marathon participants pitched tents and rolled out sleeping bags on Husky Field.



[Above] Gen. William E. Ward, deputy commander of U.S. EUCOM, presents a trophy to members of the Patch High School Cross Country Team. The team tallied 3,669 laps for the day, the most of any squad. [Right] Katie Scoffield and Bob Gridley enjoy some early morning sunshine Sept. 9 during the 24-Hour Marathon.



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A sport-y Saturday in Stuttgart

PHS, CYS squads kick off fall seasons in style





Above] The PHS defense uses a group effort to thwart a Würzburg attempt to run the ball during the Panthers' 50-22 opening-day win.

[Left] Patch cheerleaders Victoria Harvey (top) and Anne Wasson (bottom) celebrate during the second half of the Panther victory.

[Below] Zachary Schoonover is the picture of focus while warming up for his Sept. 16 match. The PHS boys and girls tennis teams each



U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart **Public Affairs Office**

he fall sports season got off to an active start Sept. 16 in Stuttgart, with football (flag and tackle varieties), soccer and tennis teams taking to fields and courts throughout the community.

Both Child and Youth Services teams and Patch High School squads were in action on the sunny Saturday.

The day began with a 9 a.m. Opening Day ceremony for the CYS squads.

Howard Johnston, deputy to the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart commander, presided over the CYS ceremony.

and to see the joy on their faces," Johnston said. "Sports are excellent opportunities to develop teamwork and to sity football team continued the winning ways for the help new families integrate into our community."

Immediately after the ceremony, players, fans and JVs 16-6. coaches dispersed to fields across Patch Barracks. CYS flag-football and soccer action also got underway on a 50-22 win over Würzburg. PHS was led by quarter-Kelley Barracks, Panzer Kaserne and Robinson Barracks. back Sean Thomas, who ran for 179 yards (including

off on Patch's Cooper Field, the PHS tennis team was running back Daniel Kennedy, who tallied 106 yards getting off to a decidedly cheerful start on the nearby courts. In what PHS coach Walter Fritz said was a first for a Department of Defense Dependents Schools tennis match, the players were preceded onto the courts by the ent, the results were the same. PHS cheerleading squad, who performed a tennis-specific cheer before the Panthers' season-opening match against Kaiserslautern.

The team gave the local fans many reasons to continue cheering, with both the boys and girls squads re-

This is a great opportunity to support our children and to see the joy on their faces. Sports are excellent opportunities to develop teamwork and to help new families integrate into our community

Howard Johnston

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

"This is a great opportunity to support our children cording 9-0 victories over the visiting Knights.

Across Patch on Husky Field, the PHS junior varhometown teams, knocking off the Würzburg Wolves

The Patch varsity kept the streak alive, rolling to As two teams of young flag-footballers were facing two touchdowns) and passed for 113 yards; and and one TD.

> Two Patch teams started their seasons on the road Sept. 16 – but though the location was differ-

The PHS boys and girls cross country squads both won six-team meets in Kaiserslautern, and both were led by record-setting runners. Nick Rogers and Maggie Redmond both set course records while pacing their teams to victory.

More photos online

Haven't seen enough of the start of the fall sports seasons in Stuttgart?

Check out the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Web site for additional images from PHS & CYS opening-day contests in Stuttgart.

Visit www.stuttgart.army.mil and click "Sports Photos."

recorded 9-0 victories over Kaiserslautern.

-PHS Fall Sports Schedules -

Cross Country • Sept. 30 – @ Vilseck

- Oct. 7 Home (Homecoming)
- Oct. 14 @ Wiesbaden
- Oct. 21 @ Kaiserslautern • Oct. 28 – @ Heidelberg (Champ.)

Football

- Sept. 30 @ Wiesbaden
- Oct. 7 Kaiserslautern (Homecoming)
- Oct. 14 @ Ramstein
- Oct. 20 Heidelberg (Night Game)
- Oct. 28 @ TBA (Playoffs)
- Nov. 4 @ TBA (Championship)

Golf

- Sept. 29 @ Baumholder
- Oct. 5 Home
- Oct. 12/13 @ TBA (Champ.)

Tennis

- Sept. 30 @ Vilseck
- Oct. 7 Home (Homecoming)
- Oct. 14 @ Ramstein
- Oct. 21 Home

• Oct. 26/28 – @ TBA (champs)

Volleyball • Sept. 30 – @ Vilseck

- Oct. 7 Home (Homecoming)
- Oct. 14 @ Ramstein
- Oct. 21 Home
- Oct. 28 @ Heidelberg
- Nov. 2/4 @ Kaiserslautern (Champ.)

Dates and locations subject to change. For starting times call Patch High School:

430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191 All home athletic events are free of charge.

Stuttgart-area golfers hit the links at inaugural Commander's Tournament

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

rea golfers smacked drives and sank putts Sept. 15 during the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander's Golf Tournament. Nearly 65 golfers hit the fairways just after the 8:45 a.m. shotgun start to compete for top prizes in a four-person best-ball tournament.

"It's another great opportunity to bring the community together," said USAG-Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens. "We have a premiere golf course here, and we should take advantage of that."

Following 18 holes of swings and divots, tournament participants ended the mostly dry day with a putting contest on the practice green adjacent to the club house, an American-style barbecue and an awards ceremony.

Tournament Winners

The team of Ed McCargo, Tony Green, Wendel Tedder and John Pipkin netted a 56 during their march around the links to take home top tournament honors.

Charles Boyett and Therman Farley won closest-to-the-pin honors and both took home a box of Titliest PTS golf balls.

Katalina Liliu and Wendel Tedder muscled John Daly-sized cracks at the ball to take home longest drive honors.

In the 19th-hole putting competition, where players navigated their balls around various obstacles such as a pitchfork and miniature sand pyramids, Michael Lowhan netted the lowest score and won a \$30 gift certificate.

Several local organizations donated items to the tournament. The PowerZone on Patch Barracks donated three JVC MP3 players. Participants enjoyed cold beer compliments of Bitburger.

About the course

With some 1,000 trees and nearly 50 bunkers dotting its enormous acreage, the Stuttgart Golf Club is one of the largest in Germany.

It's also not uncommon to spot the wildlife that habitats the course, such as rabbits, squirrels, hawks, ducks and groundhogs, the infamous nemesis depicted in "Caddyshack."

In order to preserve this rich ecosystem, the course joined the International Audubon Society this year.

"We want to create the best natural environment out there," said Gary Groff, the course's manager. "It's a walk in nature for our golfers."

For more information or to schedule a tee-time call the pro shop at 07141-879-151. The driving range is open Mondays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesdays to Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and weekends 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The course is located at 975 Aldinerstrasse in Kornwestheim. To get there take the B27 North toward Ludwigsburg and turn right at the Pattonville exit.



Staff Sgt. Michael Dodson of USAG Stuttgart Headquarters and Headquarters Company follows the flight of his ball after a mighty swing during the inaugural Commander's Golf Tournament Sept. 15 on the Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim.



Under the watchful eyes of teammates Jim Jacoby, left, and Andy Hunter, Alan Buxkemper blasts out of the sand trap next to the 18th green.



[Above] Tony Green, Howard Johnston and Ed McCargo are in fine spirits after completing their rounds during the Commander's Golf Tournament.

[Right] U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens follows through after a swing on the 3rd hole of the Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim.



This tournament is another great opportunity to bring the community together.

Col. Kenneth G. Juergens USAG Stuttgart Commander

October Golf Outings in Stuttgart

Knights of Columbus Tournament - October 6

The shotgun start for this four-person best-ball tournament will be 9 a.m. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch. Proceeds go to support Project Liberia. For more information call 430-7862/civ. 0711-680-7862 or email kofcchaplainwatterscouncil@hotmail.com.

Wednesday Scramble Finale – October 8 Cost is \$30 for U.S. golfers and \$40 for German golfers. Players must have a valid ID card and a valid handicap. Singles and teams are welcome – and the event will feature food and prizes. For details call 07141-879-151.

Get bowled over at the Galaxy Center

By Alison Petersen

t's hard to believe that it has been nearly two years since the opening of the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center in Stuttgart. And what a two years it's been! With plenty to offer folks big and small, the Galaxy has become an irreplaceable part of our community!

What makes the Galaxy special is that it is truly an all-ages, all-around family entertainment center. It features 24 bowling lanes, a playroom for children, a birthday/conference room, a video game room, the Strike Zone snack bar, a lounge, slot machines and a calendar chock full of exciting events and ongoing promotions.

One of the most popular programs at the Galaxy is the birthday packages. There are four packages to choose from - Basic, Theme, Basic Cosmic and Cosmic Theme. Many guests select one of the theme packages, which include Superman, Bionicle, Sponge Bob, Bratz and Disney Princess.

And you don't even have to be a kid to have a party at the Galaxy! In addition to birthday parties, the Galaxy hosts unit functions and sports team parties. They have even hosted adult Sponge Bob parties. Good times!

Food is another component of the Galaxy's success. The Strike Zone snack bar offers a wide variety of tasty entrees and combo deals including burgers and fries, cheesesteak sandwiches, pizza and even a light menu. Pop by for lunch, and stay for Duty Bowl (Mon. to

joy 2 hours of unlimited bowling for only six bucks (shoe rental not included)!

Last month the Galaxy held a spectacular Customer Appreciation Day party for the community as a way of saying thanks for making the Galaxy the place to be in Stuttgart. The party was held on Aug. 20 and featured giveaways, karaoke, league signups, face-painting, free cake and of course, lots of bowling!

The giveaways, sponsored by the American Foreign Service Protective Association, were worth over \$1,000 and included an XBOX 360, DVD players, DVDs, bowling balls and bicycles. Needless to say, there were a lot of happy campers... er, bowlers!

As the Galaxy turns two years old, manager Shawn Sudduth plans to keep the good times rolling with an electrifying array of events and promotions. Included in the mix is the Frequent Bowler Program, which is designed to give back to the Galaxy's faithful customers with possible savings of over \$200 per year. The more you bowl, the more vou will save! Additionally a Gift Card program is set to kickoff. Patrons will be able to purchase 10 Games of bowling for only \$15, just in time for the holidays!

So get over to Panzer and see why the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center has become such an important part of our com-



photo by Mary Knef

Celebrate your birthday in style. The Galaxy offers a selection of birthday packages for the whole family.

munity. You may well be bowled over!

A very special thank-you to the American Foreign Service Protective Association for their sponsorship of the Customer Appreciation Day at the Galaxy. AFSPA provides health insurance for you and your family - no matter where, no matter when.

Please check out their new and improved benefits at one of their open season briefings: Oct. 16, 9 a.m., in the U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch Marshall Center; Oct. 24, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 in the Heidelberg Village Pavilion; and Oct. 25, 1 p.m., in Kelley Barracks' building 3307, room 4.









Marshall Center holds Senior Executive Seminar, policy makers, diplomats discuss security cooperation topics

Story by Sue Ferrare

wice a year the Marshall Center holds a Senior Executive Seminar aimed at bringing together highlevel government officials and policy makers to discuss a timely theme. The second seminar of this year was held August 28 to September 8 and had the theme of, "The Mediterranean Sea and the Greater Middle East: Regional Prospects for Enhanced Security Cooperation."

This particular seminar, held by the Marshall Center College of International and Security Studies is unique in that it brings together government officials, general officers, senior diplomats, ambassadors, ministers, and parliamentarians in an informal setting where they can feel as if they're speaking as subject matter experts instead of for their government, said Dr. Andrew A. Michta, professor of National Security Studies at the college.

"Most important here is to create conditions where we can talk about tough issues, because we need to do that," he said. "If there is anything unique about the SES, I would argue it's precisely that – the ability to create an atmosphere where people talk on the subject and do not feel that they are somehow representatives of a position and talk past each other."

One way the Marshall Center facilitates this kind of atmosphere is by operating under Chatham House Rules. The Rules allow people

Most important here is to create conditions where we can talk about tough issues.

> Dr. Andrew A. Michta Marshall Center College

to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organizations, so speakers are free to voice their own opinions without concern for their personal reputation or their official duties and affiliations.

"It takes a little while for people to get used to this (the Chatham House Rules), but people do, in fact, speak openly and candidly and honestly," said Lawrence R. Velte, Associate Professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies. "That benefits everyone, because they can go back to their daily duties and say I did hear someone talk about illegal immigration and it's a much bigger problem than it would appear that just by seeing a couple of pictures in the newspaper or something.'

This particular seminar, on the Mediterranean, added something that hadn't been done before by including participants from the Middle East and Mediterranean region. The Marshall Center worked with one of the four other regional centers, the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, to bring together the expertise of both the centers to enhance the overall knowledge and cooperation for this particular subject.

"There are people here from the Persian Gulf region - North Africans, Egyptians," Velte said. "What NESA brings to this enterprise, to this particular SES, is our Middle East expertise and a range of participants and speakers whose voices aren't usually heard by this audience. This is the first time (the participants have) heard real people from the real Middle East talking about real issues."

Michta explained that although some of these countries are not close to each other these issues impact everyone within the NATO alliance and the larger community.

One student, Ankica Tomic, a participant who is Head of the Section for International Cooperation at the International Relations Department of the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, explained how valuable she thought this seminar was, especially since she thinks that communication is the first step to build not only better security all around but interaction in all other fields.

"We are far from that region, and it's in human nature that if you are not close, and if you are not dealing with those problems, you are not so much interested in their situation,"

"There are a lot of misconceptions about Islam. It is the first time that I hear the views about Islam and their problems in that region. And that is very valuable. For me, I learned a lot. I can understand better now, and I can share feelings with that region and it is very

But the importance of the seminar is not just to create a forum for ideas but also to network and get to know each other, Michta said.

"I would like to say I think the Marshall Center is a place for enhancing common values of understanding, of learning, of knowing each other," Tomic said.

"In the Marshall Center we met a lot of people and made friendships and it helps us in our duties in our offices. If I must do something, for example, in Romania, I first call my colleague from the last seminar and ask him what do you think about that and this and what could I do? And he proposes what is the best way, and I think this is something that is very important."

According to Michta this seminar was a success in that there was no problem facilitating dialog or bringing people together.

"It went well and it was interesting because of the Lebanon situation," he said. "Because of the developments in the region there was a very strong sense of engagement. These are the issues that people just walked away from. They were paying very close attention - they were engaged."





Karate demonstrations on Artillery Kaserne highlighted the German-American Fest Sept. 8.

Germans, Americans enjoy fest-friendly fun

Story & photos by Sue Ferrare

ids bounced and bands played as U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch kicked off Oktoberfest with a German-American Fest of their own.

The fest was held at Artillery Kaserne on Sept. 8 and was aimed at promoting friendship and camaraderie between the surrounding host nation community and the American post.

The fest started at 3 p.m. and immediately attracted a large group of kids who may have had a hard time deciding what to do first bounce, golf, get their face painted, or make a balloon animal.

Sallie Cauthers, USAG Garmisch marketing specialist and one of the organizers of the event, said that this fest differs from many of the German fests in that it's so family friendly.

"We want the Germans to bring their kids," she said. "It doesn't matter if they speak English or our kids speak German, kids are kids, they play. The games are universal. That makes our fest unique compared to German fests, we include our families."

But the fest wasn't all about the kids. There were two bands that took turns playing – the Greenhouse Lizards and USAEUR's own Dixieland Band, the Rhine River Ramblers – and USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens joined Garmisch Mayor Thomas Schmid for the ceremonial "tapping of the keg" to get the fest started out right.

Even though they weren't selling beer from the keg, Cauthers explained that the 'tapping

That makes our fest unique compared to German fests, we include our families.

> **Sallie Cauthers** Marketing Specialist

of the keg' was a traditional ceremony to start

"We only had American beer this year," she said. "The Germans love American beer because they can't get it and it's something

The Ben and Jerry's ice cream was also a hit with the Germans, Cauthers said.

"We had the normal hamburgers, hot dogs, ribs and corn on the cob but what they really like is the Ben and Jerry's ice cream, which we had," she said.

When all was said and done, people from both sides enjoyed the event, Cauthers said.

We got really good feedback from both sides," she said. "It's becoming harder for the Germans to come on post and this way we can invite them here to bring the two nations together."



From face-painting to miniture golf, area youth enjoyed a variety of fest-friendly activities.





[Above] USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens and Garmisch Mayor Thomas Schmid tap the ceremonial keg Sept. 8 on Artillery Kaserne. [Left] Bands kept the fest lively from stage Sept. 8

Friendship Shoot fosters friendly competition

Story & photos by Sue Ferrare

o one seemed to notice as shots rang out through the quiet Bavarian mountainside because that's what the people had come for, the shooting - that, as well as a chance to socialize with their German and American friends.

Every fall for more than 20 years, U.S. Army Garrison Garrison has hosted a German-American Friendship Shoot at the Keans

Lodge. This year it was held September 16. The garrison invites all of its tenant units as well many Germans from the surrounding area and employees who have worked for them over the years, to come test their skill and meet old friends.

For 10 euro, or \$12, everyone gets four shots at a target with an air rifle as well as a buffet of homemade side dishes and desserts, and grill cooked steaks and bratwurst. The top 15 shooters make it to the final where they get one shot at a target with a 22mm rifle.

Claus Grüendl and his family have been invited to the competition every year since it started. Grüendl said he was pleased that he and his widowed mother still get invitations, since it was his father who worked for the Americans.



German and American sharpshooters took aim during the Friendship Shoot Sept 16 in Garmisch.

"I think it's a very good idea to still include the people who have done a lot for the community," he said. "I'm honored to get the invitation – it's something special."

Hilde Surmund has been coming to the Friendship Shoot for many years, but she doesn't come for the competition.

"I come here to meet friends and enjoy a meal," she said.

Even Grüendl, who advanced to the finals and says he enjoys shooting, has to agree. "I would say meeting the people is even more important for me," he said.

The final standings were as follows:

- 1st Place Karl Augustiner
- 2nd Place John Wilke
- 3rd Place Sonja Rittel
- 4th Place Hubert Maurer
- 5th Place Willi Erhardt



[Above] A street performer hangs precariously from a light pole during one of the many comedy sketches that took place during the three-day Venetian Festival Sept. 15 to 17. [Below] A musician enters the Marktplatz blowing his tuba during the festival's opening day parade.





Held every two years, the popular Venetian Festival brings a slice of Carnival allure to Ludwigsburg.

Fantasy abounds at city's weekend Venetian Festival

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

udwigsburg reveled in the mystery of Carnival during the city's Venetian Festival Sept. 15 to 17.

Held in the city's cobble-stoned Marktplatz, the festival featured jugglers, acrobats, musicians and theater troops from around the world.

The festival dates back to 1768, when Duke Carl Eugen, inspired by a visit to Italy, decided to bring a slice of Venice's allure to this southern German enclave.

The festival dropped off the city's calendar of events for quite some time, until it was revived in 1997. It is now held every two years.

The three-day open air party began on Friday just after 6 p.m., with a parade that started at the *Residenzschloss*, the city's landmark castle.

The kilometer-deep parade was led by a two-wheeled gondola, flanked on either side by several oarsmen (wearing the trademark blue-and-white stripped long-sleeved shirts and red scarves) who pushed the wooden boat down the city streets. A staple of Venetian canal travel, the gondola signaled the arrival of the entertainers into the plaza and the start of the festival.

Live acts took place on several large stages throughout the weekend.

Coffee tables spilled out into the plaza as festival goers enjoyed

flammkuchen (thin pizza slathered in cream and cheese), Italian red wine and a variety of entertaining shows.

On Friday evening, the fiddle folk band, Roszak, played traditional Romanian tunes, while several local kids, dressed in black capes and Venetian masks, kicked up their feet and boogied in front of the stage.

On the opposite side of the festival grounds, numerous Venetian craftsmen set up booths to display their jewelry trinkets, Murano glassware, wood carvings and handmade masks.

At one particular booth, Bertoldini Guiliana, a shop owner from Venice, said he has been traveling to Ludwigsburg since 1997 to sell his masks during the festival.

Educated initially as a metallurgist and later as a mascarei, he said he can spend up to several days fine-tuning just one mask. The process he explained starts with a hand-crafted plaster mold which he layers with paper-mache. Later, he seals the mask with a base coat before adorning it with gold leaf, tempura and oil colors.

In the corner of his booth, he set up a small craft table where kids could paint their own masks for a two euro fee.

Not a bad deal, considering that his most expensive mask, a Casanova, had a price tag of over 500 euro.

Enjoy fest seasonCannstatter Volksfest,

through Oct. 8. You don't need to go to Munich to enjoy one of Germay's great festivals.

The world's second largest beer festival is located right here in Stuttgart at the Cannstatter Wasen fairgrounds.

Live bands, roller coasters, ferris wheels, food booths and more, all with a Swabian flair.

For more information visit www.canstatter-volksfest. de.

• Fellbacher Herbst, Oct 6 to 8. Every year during the second weekend of October, the city of Fellbach puts on one of the most popular harvest and wine fests in the Stuttgart region.

Enjoy a "Viertele" of wine as well as irresistible Swabian specialities such as Maultauschen, Wurst, Käsespätzle and onion cake.

For more information visit www.fellbacher.de.

• Filderkrautfest, Oct 14 to 15. October is Krautfest time in Leinfelden-Echterdingen.

Enjoy a variety of local specialities, including, or course, many Kraut (cabbage) dishes, as well as live entertainment in a cozy, festive atmosphere.

For more information visit www.leinfelden-echterdingen.de.

- Additional reporting by Alison Petersen.

Stuttgart Scorpions roll past Monarchs, to face Braunschweig in GFL playoff series

Story by Brandon Beach

Ollowing their 47-27 trounce over Dresden Sept. 17, the Stuttgart Scorpions find themselves one win away from a spot in this year's German Bowl.

Next stop for the Scorpions in their German Football League playoff drive is Braunschweig, where the hometown Lions have captured the championship title a record four times in their last eight attempts.

The matchup pits north against south. Braunschweig ended their regular season on top of the GFL North league with an 11-1 record, racking up six straight wins before the playoff push.

With an 8-1-3 record during the regular season, the Scorpions finished in second place behind the Marbach Mercenaries, a team who faces Hamburg in the other semifinals matchup.

On Sunday, in front of a 1,000-plus hometown crowd in Degerloch's Gazi Stadium, the Scorpions wasted little time getting on the scorecard

Running back Christopher Jackson, a native of North Rockland, NY, found the end zone three times in the first quarter, his longest a 74-yard pass reception from quarterback Matthew Crockett. Jackson ended the game with 222 rushing yards.

"The offense is clicking at the right time," said Jeff Carpenter, director of the Child and Youth Services' S.K.I.E.S. program and one of three players on the team who has a day job in the Stuttgart military community.

On the other side of the snap, a solid Scorpion defensive line made sure it drove the Dresden running game into the ground. The Monarch backs had a dismal 27 yards on 26 plays for the day.

Middle linebacker Jasson Scott, a child and youth program assistant at the Hub on Patch Barracks, led the Scorpion defense with 11 tackles.

Admad Spidle, who works at Patch School Age Services, had three tackles from his cornerback position and ran for over 50 yards as a left-side punt returner.

The game marked a return to the field for Carpenter, who spent the last five weeks side-

It felt great to get back into game speed and make some hits.

Jeff Carpenter CYS S.K.I.E.S. Director

lined by a muscle tear in his right arm.

"It felt great to get back into game speed and make some hits," he said.

Down 22-0 in the first quarter, the Monarchs were quick to adapt their game strategy in the second quarter.

Led by quarterback Nick Forston, who had 244 passing yards, the Monarchs switched to the air and managed to cut the Scorpion lead 24-14 before the halftime whistle.

The start of the third quarter echoed the game's opening minutes. Following a Dresden kickoff, Jackson exploded from the backfield on a third-down play with a 78-yard sprint through the middle of the Monarch defense for the touchdown. The Scorpions led at that point 33-20, and Dresden could never find the wheels to bounce back.

The result sets up a semifinal matchup against Braunschweig Sept. 23, 7 p.m., at the Lion's home stadium. A win there moves the Scorpions onto Germany's biggest football stage

Expected will be hard-hitting football action, leg-kicking cheerleaders and halftime show of live music and fireworks. This year's German Bowl XXVIII will have many things similar to its American counterpart, the Super

The game takes place Oct. 7 in Braunschweig.

For more about the Stuttgart Scorpions visit www.stuttgart-scorpions.de. For details about the German Bowl XXVIII visit www.germanbowl.com.

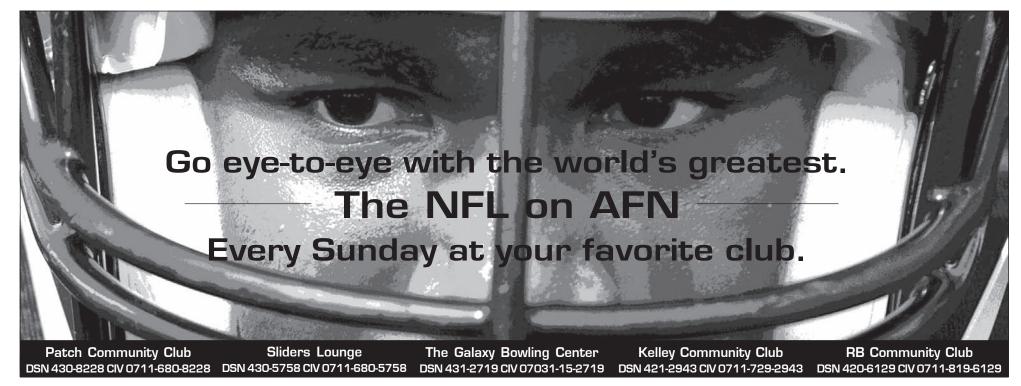


Scorpion running back Tony Avella tries to shed a Dresden defender Sept. 17 in Degerloch. Stuttgart beat the Monarchs 47-27 to earn a birth in the GFL playoff semifinals.



logo courtesy of www.germanbowl.com

With hard-hitting football action, enthusiastic cheerleaders and a halftime show of live music and fireworks, this year's German Bowl XXVIII has a lot in common to its American counterpart, the Super Bowl. The game takes place Oct. 7 in Braunschweig.





PERFORMANCE DATES:

oct. 14, 20, 21, 27, 28

Nov. 3, 4 at 7:30

oct. 15, 22, 29

Nov. 5 at 3:00

TICKET PRICES

Adults \$14/€14 Students/Children \$12/€12



Resecutions can be made at the Stuffgari Entertainment Branch, Eldg. 3319 on Kelley Barracks, or by calling 0711-7292-825 or DSN: 4212-825. Box Office Hours: Fpes.-Frl. cz:30-5:30 p.m. Dilldren under 5 years of age cannot be edinitted to any performance. Non-US military ID card holders MUST call with passport information at least one week prior to performance. Reservations can also be made online on our website at: sestests. kelleytheatre. de